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school. The opening of higher elementary Standards of VI, VII and VIII is permitted wherever necessary. The Third Five-Year Plan includes a scheme for the opening of about 1,750 additional sections in Standards VI to VIII every year during the first three years of the Plan period.

II.—ANNOUNCEMENTS—*Cont*.

(2) NOMINATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have also to announce to the House that the Legislative Council has nominated the following five members to associate with the Committee on Estimates of the Legislative Assembly for the year 1963-64:—

1. Sri T. S. Arunachalam.
2. Sri K. Ramadass.
3. Sri V. M. Surendraram.
4. Sri K. Anbazhagan.
5. Sri S. K. Sambandan.

(3) NOMINATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have further to announce that the Legislative Council has nominated the following five members to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Legislative Assembly for the year 1963-64:—

1. Sri T. Joghee Gowder.
2. Sri A. Sambasiva Reddiar.
3. Sri K. Rajaram.
4. Sri K. Anbazhagan.
5. Dr. A. Chidambaranathan.

V.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS CULTIVATING TENANTS PROTECTION AND PAYMENT OF FAIR RENT (EXTENSION TO ADDED TERRITORIES) BILL, 1963.

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: Sir, I move—

"That leave be granted for the introduction of the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection and Payment of Fair Rent (Extension to Added Territories) Bill, 1963."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is—

"That leave be granted for the introduction of the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection and Payment of Fair Rent (Extension to Added Territories) Bill, 1963."

The motion was put and carried and leave was granted.

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THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Bill is introduced.

(2) THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND (REDUCTION OF RENT) AMENDMENT BILL, 1963.

9-30 a.m. THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Amendment Bill, 1963[a] and move—

"That the Bill be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* Extraordinary, dated 29th July 1963.

Sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, empowers the State Government to fix, by order, reduced rates of rent payable in respect of each class of ryoti land in an estate as defined in the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908. Cases have come to the notice of the Government in which, after the publication of the said Rent Reduction notification a Court, Tribunal or other authority has held that the area specified in the order is not an "estate" or that any land specified in the order is not a ryoti land. At present, there is no provision in the Act as to what should happen in such cases, to the amount already collected by the State Government under sub-section (4) of section 3 of the Act or as to the rights and liabilities of the landholder and the tenant.

The cancellation of Rent Reduction notification, especially after a long spell, will cause undue hardship to the tenants in that they have to pay in one lump-sum the difference in rent which the landholder will demand in consequence of such cancellation. Provision has, therefore, been made so as to enable the tenant to pay the difference of rent in easy instalments not exceeding ten. In the Bill as published the tenant could apply to the Collector for fixing the number of instalments not exceeding Rs. 10 in which he could pay this amount. But, however, Government consider that the tenant should be enabled to get this relief even at the hands of the Court in which the landholder files his suit for arrears and also that the relief should extend to decrees already passed but not fully satisfied. I shall be moving amendments for this purpose.

As regards the period of limitation for the landholder filing suits, it is considered necessary to exclude in its computation the period from the date of publication of the notification under section 3 (2) of the Rent Reduction Act, and the date of the Court's decision holding such notification to be invalid.

The landholder will have to take credit for the amounts paid by the ryot to the Government under the Reduction of Rent Act and can only sue for the balance.

[a] Published in the *Fort, St. George Gazette* Extraordinary, dated 29th July 1963.